

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



Date: Wednesday, June 10th, 2026

Time: 2-4PM

Location: Virtual

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82562814239?jst=2>

Meeting ID: 825 6281 4239

Voting members present:

- Alexa Arieta, Health Agent (Oak Bluffs) - Y
- Marina Lent, Health Agent (Aquinnah) - N
- Jerico Mele, Human Services Director (Nantucket) - Y
- Anna McCaffrey, Health Agent (Chilmark) - Y
- Sarah Toste, Assistant Health Agent (West Tisbury) - N
- Brice Boutot, Health Agent (Edgartown) - Y
- Drew Belsky, Health Agent (Tisbury) - Y
- Stewart Young, Selectboard & Board of Health Member (Gosnold) - N

Non-voting members present:

- Betsy Vanlandingham, Case Investigation/Contact Tracing Coordinator, Dukes County
- Caitlyn Winders, Shared Services Coordinator, BME Strategies
- Carrie Welch, Health Inspector, IIPHEC
- Fernando Lana, Assistant Health Agent, Edgartown
- Lea Hamner, Epidemiologist, Dukes County
- Martha O'Donnell, Intern, IIPHEC
- Patrick Roden-Reynolds, Wildlife Biologist & Vector-Borne Disease Epidemiologist, IIPHEC
- Stephanie Barth, Epidemiologist, Visiting Nurses Association of Cape Cod

Alexa Arieta called the meeting to order. Brice Boutot seconded.

5/8 voting communities present, quorum met.

Attendance Roll Call

Aquinnah: N

Chilmark: Y

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



Edgartown: Y
Gosnold: N
Nantucket: Y
Oak Bluffs: Y
Tisbury: Y
West Tisbury: N

The meeting was called to order at 2:05PM.

Administrative

Review of 5/27/26 IIPHEC Meeting Minutes

Drew Belsky motioned to approve the minutes. Alexa seconded.

Aquinnah: Not present
Chilmark: Abstain
Edgartown: Y
Gosnold: Not present
Nantucket: Y
Oak Bluffs: Y
Tisbury: Y
West Tisbury: Not present

Introduction to Martha

The Advisory Board had their formal introduction to IIPHEC's Maternal, Child & Family health summer intern, Martha O'Donnell.

Alexa and Marina are facilitating an introduction between Martha and the Wampanoag tribe.
Martha will copy the respective Health Agent on her emails to organizations in their town.

Communications Round-Up

The SSC shared with the Advisory Board that a Robert's Rules of Order Training was scheduled for the following day from 5-7PM.

Lea Hamner then shared some communications updates from the MV Tick Program. This included the MVH's Tick Communications group decision to use islandspublichealth.com as the go-to site for tick information. The

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



group stated that MVBOH and now IIPHEC websites have long served an island-wide role on information around ticks. Thus, clinical, community, and other partners will point people towards the IIPHEC websites. She also shared that she spoke to NPR Science desk the morning of the meeting and that the Boston Globe published their article last week in that past Sunday's paper. Lea also shared about a Tick Talk panel with the Vineyard Haven Library at Katherine Cornell Theater and had 72 attendees. Presenters included Lea, Aubrey Ryan, Virginia Barbatti, Ellen McMahon, Josh Levy, and Katie Fitch. The panel received highly positive feedback from attendees.

Patrick Roden-Reynolds shared that there has been a lot of media attention this past spring. He shared that an article from the New Yorker will likely be released in July. He will be at Edgartown School to talk to a K-12 assembly and has been working on yard surveys in the meantime. He would like to engage in tick education outreach in April, May, and June and will start pushing some of that work to the fall and winter. Patrick has also been working on a school resource packet for teachers and building out a Google Drive that has lesson plans and curriculums, etc, which can be put on the website and agents can ask if other teachers are interested.

Brice shared that Edgartown passed Kratom regulation yesterday, but the town has not done a press release.

Drew shared that beach testing started this week.

FY26 Spend Down Discussion

The Advisory Board allotted an additional \$1,920 for tick comms materials. Patrick shared that he can order another batch and has been working on another shower hanger tick check design.

The Media Communications Training was scheduled for June 29. This training was approved by OLRH to be included under the "Training/Credentialing" budget line item.

Budget Modification

Alexa motioned to approve the current budget modification. Jerico Mele seconded.

Aquinnah: Not present

Chilmark: Y

Edgartown: Y

Gosnold: Not present

Nantucket: Y

Oak Bluffs: Y

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



Tisbury: Y

West Tisbury: Not present

FY27 Workplan Review

The SSC shared that the objectives and activities selected based on workplan content survey questions, Workforce Standards, and work that the collaborative has done this year.

The Advisory Board voted to update the workplan to include activities B, C, D, and E under the Housing objective and activities D and G under the Food Protection objective.

Alexa motioned to approve the updated FY27 workplan. Brice seconded.

Aquinnah: Not present

Chilmark: Y

Edgartown: Y

Gosnold: Not present

Nantucket: Y

Oak Bluffs: Y

Tisbury: Y

West Tisbury: Not present

Gosnold Summer Inspectional Visit

Carrie Welch shared that June 23 is the scheduled date for the summer inspectional visit to Gosnold and that she and Frederick Hehre will head to Menemsha at 6:45AM. They will inspect 12 food establishments and two camps. Sarah Smith put together our transportation for the two inspectors. They will stop and inspect the camp first, then go on to Gosnold. Sysco Foods is coming over to the island on June 23, so Carrie and Fred will be able to see how that process happens.

Gosnold Health Agent Hiring

There is currently no update on the status of the hiring of a Health Agent for the town of Gosnold, but IIPHEC has reached out to offer and provide support if needed.

Permethrin Shoe Spraying

Patrick shared that the biggest concern about doing these events is that there is liability involved in treating people's clothing. One option to reduce liability is to have people treat their own shoes. He suggested that after events he can take the label on the permethrin bottle and blow it up for community members to read.

Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Meeting Minutes



Adjournment

Alexa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jerico seconded.

Aquinnah: Not present

Chilmark: Y

Edgartown: Y

Gosnold: Not present

Oak Bluffs: Y

Nantucket: Y

Tisbury: Y

West Tisbury: Not present

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00PM.